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Minimum Size
(Inches)

Daily limit

Season (MM/DD)

S	M	T	W	T	F	S

	STRIPED BASS *** (No spearing)	28	1	1/1 – 12/31
	BLUEFISH ***	—	10	1/1 – 12/31
	TAUTOG (BLACKFISH)	16	2 2 4	4/1 – 4/30 7/1 – 8/31 10/10 – 12/6
	SCUP (PORGY)*	10	30	5/1 – 12/31
	SUMMER FLOUNDER (FLUKE)*	18	5	5/17 – 9/21
	WINTER FLOUNDER	12	2	4/1 – 12/31
	BLACK SEA BASS	15	5	5/1 – 12/31
	WEAKFISH	16	1	1/1 – 12/31
	HICKORY SHAD	—	6	1/1 – 12/31
	WHITE PERCH	7	30	1/1 – 12/31
	MENHADEN (BUNKER)	—	50 / 5 gal.	1/1 – 12/31

*Except at Enhanced Opportunity Shore Angler Program Designated Fishing Sites

***In general, yes. The Connecticut Department of Public Health (www.ct.gov/DPH) publishes a [fish consumption advisory](#) each year. This brochure provides information on the amount of each type of fish that can be eaten safely (by risk group and waterbody). For more information including the fish consumption fact sheet, special fact sheet for pregnant women, non-English summaries, and updates visit the DPH web site at www.ct.gov/DPH/Fish or call 860-509-7740.

Blue crab





- ◆ Minimum Length for Hard Shell 5 inches spike to spike and soft shell 3.5 inches spike to spike
- ◆ No Daily Limit
- ◆ No female crabs with eggs
- ◆ Season is May 1st to Nov. 30th
- ◆ Taste– excellent
- ◆ [Factsheet](#)







CLAMS, MUSSELS, AND OYSTERS

Permits or licenses to collect shellfish (clams, mussels, and oysters) are granted by a city or town, not the DEEP. To get information and a permit, please contact the town hall or city hall where you would like to collect clams, mussels, or oysters.

*Enhanced Opportunity Shore Fishing



Look for this sign. At these [locations](#) the minimum size for Porgy and Fluke have been reduced to help shore anglers catch a tasty and healthy meal.

Regulations

Below are some types of fishing regulations that are used to improve fishing for everyone. Regulations vary by the type of fish and/or the waterbody. Please check the most current [Angler's Guide](#) for details.

Regulation	Why it is needed
Minimum Size	To make sure the fish will mature and breed at least once before being harvested
Daily Limit	To make sure many people have a chance to catch some or to prevent taking too many from the population
Season	To protect fish when they are vulnerable (breeding, migrating, etc.)
Equipment	To reduce injury to a fish so it can be released unharmed and caught again

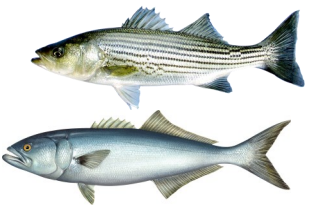
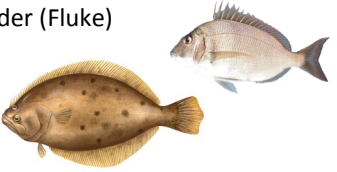


Fishing is a Simple, Easy, and Fun Family Activity

Getting started ([free learn to fish workbook](#))

- ◆ Take a DEEP sponsored [FREE fishing class](#)
- ◆ Visit a local bait and tackle store for the best local advice
- ◆ Go to one of the many “[enhanced opportunity shore fishing locations](#)”
- ◆ Try [crabbing](#)—lots of fun!



Tips and places for successful fishing

Type of fish	Technique	Bait and Lures	Places to go
Striped Bass/Bluefish 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cast and Retrieve• Jigging• Still Fishing• Bottom Fishing• Trolling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live Bunker or Eels• Chunks of Bunker• Sandworms• Large lures• “Snapper Poppers”	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Offshore Reefs•Harbors•Connecticut River, Housatonic River ,and Thames River•Shoreline access points•State Parks
Scup (Porgy)/ Summer Flounder (Fluke) 	Bottom fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Live Minnows• Squid• Sandworms• Clams or mussels	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Enhanced Shoreline Access•Connecticut River, Housatonic River ,and Thames River•Charter fishing boat
Blackfish (Tautog) 	Bottom fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Green, Asian, or Hermit Crabs• Sandworms• Clams	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Rocky shoreline•Jetties•Docks
Blue Claw Crabs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hand line• Traps• Scooping with a long handle net	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chicken legs or wings• Bunker or mackerel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">•Salt marshes•Tidal sections of rivers•Docks•Jetties



Family Friendly Fishing Locations

Fishing in saltwater provides an opportunity to catch some very large and tasty fish. Families will enjoy a day of saltwater fishing at many parks and [access along the Connecticut shoreline](#).

- [Rocky Neck State Park](#) (East Lyme)
- [DEEP Marine Headquarters](#) (Old Lyme)
- [Fort Trumbull State Park](#) (New London)
- [Sherwood Island State Park](#) (Westport)
- [Silver Sands State Park](#) (Milford)
- [Lighthouse Point](#) (New Haven)

Fishing Licenses (available [online](#))

100% of the fees from fishing licenses go to support fish, wildlife, and forest programs at the DEEP.

Anyone who is between the ages of 16 and 64 years old is required to have a fishing license (fees below). Licenses for CT residents age 16 or 17 are 50% off of the regular price. Kids under 16 do not need a license, however, DEEP offers the **FREE youth fishing passport** to help motivate the younger anglers. Those who are age 65 or older are required to obtain a **FREE** fishing license annually.

www.ct.gov/deep/sportsmenlicensing

License	CT Resident and (CT 16/17 year old) Fee	Non CT Resident Fee
Inland waters	\$28 (\$14)	\$55
Marine waters	\$10 (\$5)	\$15
All waters	\$32 (\$16)	\$ 63

Are fish safe to eat?

As part of a health diet, fish from Connecticut’s waters are a low-cost source of protein, low in fat and cholesterol, and area a good source of heart-healthy Omega-3 fatty acids.

Unfortunately, mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are two substances that accumulate in fish and can be transferred to humans by eating the fish. Exposure to both substances have been associated with health issues like slow brain development, birth defects, and cancer.

To help keep everyone safe, the Department of Public Health provides [advice and recommendation](#) on how to enjoy eating fish you catch while also minimizing risk to people. For detailed information visit the DPH [web page](#) or call 1-877-458-3474.

Let’s Go Fishing!



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Marine Fisheries
860-434-6043
Deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov
www.ct.gov/deep/fishing



The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection is an Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to complying with the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person who may need a communication aid or service should contact us at (860) 418-5910 or at deep.accommodations@ct.gov